in the Ayurveda Hospital, while the number of beds in the General Hospital and other allopathic institutions was large. The expenditure on the Ayurveda College was insignificant, when compared to that of other educational institutions. The highest-paid officer, the Principal, was drawing a salary of only Rs. 50 per mensem. When the teachers were not properly encouraged, the nature of instruction that they would impart could more or less be imagined. There were no institutions for imparting instruction in poison cure, ophthalmalogy and other special subjects. The Ayurveda system of treatment, if developed on modern lines, could be made popular even in western countries where the allopathic system was now most popular. With a view to make the Ayurveda system of treatment more popular and to improve the administration of the department, the member suggested that the Ayurveda Department should be placed under the control of a board of management with the acting Director of Ayurveda as its president. The board should consist of two non-official gentlemen of the profession and three officials, *viz.*, the Director of Ayurveda, the Principal of the Ayurveda College and an allopathic doctor. The board should be entrusted with the work of conducting Ayurveda examinations and granted the power to recognise Ayurveda institutions and to award grants-in-aid to *Vaidyans*. Under the proper administration of the department by such a board, the expert *vaidyans* would receive adequate encouragement and inducement to promote the cause of Ayurveda. A company might be formed and steps taken to manufacture medicines on scientific lines and distribute the same at cheap rates to the people at large. The question should therefore be taken up for earnest consideration.

DEWAN'S REPLY: നിങ്ങളുടെ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ മുഖ്യമായി അടങ്ങീട്ടുള്ള സംഗതി ആയുർവേദഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ പരിഷ്കരണമാണ്. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു പരിഷ്കരണം അധികം കാലതാമസം കൂടാതെഉണ്ടാകുമെന്ന വിശ്വസിക്കാം. ആ പരിഷ്കരണം ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന കാലത്തു നിങ്ങളുടെ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ അടങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ള വിലയേറിയ അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു നല്ലവണ്ണം ആരാഞ്ഞറിഞ്ഞു ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തി വേണ്ട പരിഷ്കാരം ചെയ്യുന്നതായിരിക്കും.

[The main theme of your representation was the reform of the Ayurveda Department. We may hope that before long a reform will take place and at that time all your valuable suggestions will be carefully considered and made use of.]

47. Suggestions for the improvement of Education in Travancore.

MR. KANAKKU MARTANDA PILLAI PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil taluk, Group I*) said that the need for revising the system of education in Travancore had been represented both in the Legislative Council and in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. The newspapers had also brought it to the notice of the Government.

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The existing system of education was purely literary and was the chief cause of unemployment. Economics, morals, religion, hygiene, etc., had no place in the curricula of studies. The private schools were not properly encouraged. Vernacular education was pushed to the back-ground. Selection of text books was not satisfactory. The following were the suggestions made by the member for improving the system of education and the working of the Education Department :

(1) The Director of Public Instruction was hard-worked and could not find time to the shaping of new policies on modern lines for the improvement of education in the State. Vernacular education should be controlled by a separate officer styled the Deputy Director. He should be thoroughly familiar with the vernacular and subject, if necessary, to take charge of the administrative supervision of the Director of Public Instruction. For purposes of inspection of vernaculor schools, the whole State should be divided into 4 or 5 districts and each district placed under the charge of an Assistant Inspector. The Inspectors should be assisted by Sub-Inspectors who may be recruited from among Middle School Headmasters. The pay of the Deputy Director, the Assistant Inspector and the Sub-Inspector might be fixed at Rs. 750, Rs. 150 and Rs. 50 respectively. The Deputy Director might be given power to inspect all educational institutions except colleges. The places of Inspector of English Schools, Chief Inspector of Vernacular schools and Assistant Inspectors of English Schools should be abolished and in their place two Range Inspectors should be appointed with power to inspect English and Vernacular schools. Under the Range Inspector, there must be two Assistant Inspectors and under each Assistant Inspector there must be eight or ten Sub-Inspectors. High Schools should be placed under the charge of Range Inspectors, Middle Schools under Assistant Inspectors and Primary Schools under Sub-Inspectors.

(2) The girls' schools branch should be similarly reorganised.

(3) The selection of text books should be controlled by the Deputy Director.

(4) The present system of education should be changed and instruction should be imparted in technical subjects such as agriculture, commerce and industries. Agriculture should be made compulsory in English and Malayalam schools and agricultural farms should be opened with a view to impart practical instruction in agriculture. Commerce should be taught in all higher classes. Facilities should also be afforded for teaching one or two industries suitable to each locality. The scheme of teaching weaving introduced in certain schools was not working properly due to want of cotton farms and spinning and weaving equipments. The system of teaching manual training should be improved. Manual training should be taught in primary classes and commercial subjects in higher classes.

(5) Duly qualified teachers should be appointed for teaching English in all Vernacular Middle Schools.

(6) Religious instruction should be imparted in all schools.

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(7) In girls' schools more prominence should be given to music and sewing. Hygiene should be compulsorily taught. Facilities should be afforded for teaching domestic economy, first aid, nursing and cooking.

(8) Separate text books should be prescribed for boys' and girls' schools. Importance should be given to historical books and books on moral lessons. Novels, especially romances, should be excluded. The selection of text-books should be made with due care to the standard of each class, the purity of the language, etc.

(9) Greater attention should be paid to the provision of proper buildings for schools and their equipment, especially vernacular schools. Each school should have an adequate number of reference books.

(10) Physical instruction now imparted in schools was not satisfactory. It should be improved and medical inspection conducted in all schools.

(11) The pay of vernacular school teachers should still further be enhanced and their minimum pay fixed at Rs. 18.

(12) Recognised schools should be adequately encouraged. The grants now awarded were inadequate and the officers were unsympathetic. Recognition should be granted if a school was well-equipped and well-managed. The Director should bestow greater attention on this matter. The loss incurred by the managers on account of fee concessions and medical inspection should be made good by the Government.

(13) Teachers in recognised schools should be appointed in Government schools when vacancies arose. The practice of discharging teachers before the vacation and appointing fresh teachers after the reopening, resorted to by some managers with a view to save their pay for the period of the vacation, should be stopped.

(14) The expenditure on the Education Department was increasing year by year and should be controlled. Schools within municipal towns should be left to the management of the Municipal Councils or local boards to be newly formed. More schools should be left to the management of private agencies. The expenditure on salaries should be reduced and unnecessary expenditure curtailed. The places of the Personal Assistants to the Director of Public Instruction, to the Inspectors and to the Inspectress should be abolished. The pay of the latter officers, the Principals and Professors of Colleges and of Headmasters should be reduced. Their office staff also should be cut short. The Special Schools established in certain places should be abolished.

In conclusion, the member requested that a committee should be constituted to enquire into the existing system of education and suggest ways and means for revising it and reducing the expenditure on the Education Department.

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DEWAN'S' REPLY: Mr. Kanakku Martanda Pillai Parameswaran Pillai, നിങ്ങൾ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെപ്പറ്റിയും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചും ധാരാളം സംഗതികൾ ഈ നിവേദനത്തിൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അവയെല്ലാം ഉത്തരംപറയാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. എന്നു മാത്രമല്ലാ, നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള മിക്ക അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളോടും ഇവിടത്തെ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ യോജിക്കുമെന്നും തോന്നുന്നില്ല. എന്തായാലും നിങ്ങളുടെ നിവേദനത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള സംഗതികളെപ്പറ്റി ശരിയായി ആലോചിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറു വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതായിരിക്കും.

[It is not possible to give an exhaustive reply to the several observations made by you both in regard to the Education Department and the system of education. It is also doubtful whether the general public will agree with you in most of your views. Your suggestions will, however, be carefully considered and the necessary action taken.]

48. The Education Department.

MR. KRISHNA PILLAI MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli taluk, Group I*) first spoke about certain defects in the administration of the Education Department. There was lack of discipline in schools due to lack of discipline among the officers and teaching staff. Consequently there was no discipline in homes. Much time was wasted in unnecessary correspondence and there was inordinate delay in filling vacancies in the teaching staff. Teachers were relieved before the vacation in certain schools and reappointed only two or three months after the reopening.

The member suggested the desirability of teaching vernacular in Forms V and VI as it was a compulsory subject for university courses of study. The control over Sanskrit schools was vested in three officers, which was not satisfactory. The Principal of the Sanskrit College should have complete control over them as of old. The powers of the higher officers of the department should also be defined.

The member next advocated the need for getting down an educational expert from England or America for the purpose of preparing a scheme for the revision of the existing system of education so as to make it more useful to the people. There was nobody either in the department or outside in Travancore who would be able to undertake this work. Hence the need for getting down a foreigner.

The scheme for the revision of salaries of vernacular school teachers was not free from complaint. Acting and S. P. T. Headmistresses who were drawing higher pay as such up to the end of Medam 1104 were asked to refund the excess pay drawn over the pay to which they were eligible under the scheme.

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